



NEWS RELEASE

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Airpower Summary: April 29 – May 5, 2012

First refueling unit to reach 25,000 missions in single AOR

TRANSIT CENTER AT MANAS, Kyrgyzstan -- The 22nd Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, stationed at the Transit Center at Manas, reached a milestone of 25,000 air refueling missions May 4.

The 22 EARS provides one-third of the aerial refueling for coalition aircraft supporting international efforts in Afghanistan.

During the past year, 22 EARS sortie support has grown 23 percent, allowing them to quickly eclipse the 25,000th mission mark.

"Like their squadron mascot, the mule, the 22 EARS has stubbornly labored to safely and efficiently fuel the fight despite harsh winter and other ops-related challenges," said Col. Brian Newberry, 376th Expeditionary Operations Group commander.



Capt. Tanya Dubiel commands a KC-135 Stratotanker assigned to the Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, May 4, 2012, over Afghanistan during the 22nd Expeditionary Aerial Refueling Squadron's 25,000th flight. Dubiel is a 22 EARS KC-135 pilot deployed to the Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, from Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Angela Ruiz)

Capt. Tanya Dubiel, 22 EARS pilot deployed from Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., was honored to fly the 25,000th mission.

"I think it's a really proud day for our unit, we've accomplished a lot," Dubiel said. "[This crew was] specifically chosen [for this mission] and I think it says a lot about our crew. We're young, but highly capable of performing the mission and doing it well."

Although the day was like any other, Dubiel said she enjoys the interaction with the receiving aircraft.

"Engaging with our receivers and knowing the fuel we give them helps the troops on the ground is a very special part of the job," she said. "It makes me feel really good about what I do."

For the full article or to download high resolution photographs, visit <http://www.manas.afcent.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123300779>

The Combined Forces Air Component Commander's airpower data for the week of Apr 29-May 5 2012:

Airpower Summary for the week of Apr 29 - May 5, 2012

Close Air Support	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	TOTAL
Operation Enduring Freedom	76	75	84	74	81	81	67	538
Weapons Releases								
OEF	2	9	6	10	29	19	7	82
ISR								
OEF	81	109	108	112	102	110	107	729
Combined Data								
Airlift Sorties	122	122	100	116	126	133	106	825
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)	692	692	323	774	578	672	524	4,255
Airlift Passengers	1,754	1,754	1,791	2,502	2,397	3,212	2,572	15,982
Tanker Sorties	46	45	51	50	50	51	53	346
Fuel Offloaded (Thousands of Pounds)	2,852	2,855	3,086	2,886	3,082	3,135	2,837	20,733
Aircraft Refueled	206	213	242	213	228	226	199	1,527
PR/Medevac Sorties	9	17	28	17	28	21	33	153
Saves	1	3	6	2	5	2	4	23
Assist	0	7	9	8	7	3	11	45

(To see the complete CFACC Airpower Statistics, current as of April 30, 2012, please visit:
<http://www.afcent.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120506-001.pdf>

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